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Patrick Wilson Library  
Montgomery Bell Academy  
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# THE BELL RINGER



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MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

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## UNBELIEVABLE! MBA/HH EMBARK UPON MERGER!

### A History Of The Merger Talks

by Bryan Donnell

An incredible new chapter is about to be added to the history of MBA. That which so many have laughed at for so long is now about to take place. The details are not completely worked out yet, and there are many as of yet unsolved problems, but it is decided.

Over a three-year period, MBA and Harpeth Hall will merge.

On Monday, March 3, 1986, Mr. Bondurant called the editors of the *Bell Ringer* into his office and said that he and the Board of Trustees had decided to announce through the *Bell Ringer* that over a three-year period, MBA and Harpeth Hall will merge.

The idea of combining the two schools was first suggested in the 30's by board member Mr. Ruben

Kentschke, but because of the social conventions of the times and the widespread acceptance of MBA's and Harpeth Hall's co-existence, the idea was vehemently rejected by the rest of the MBA Board of Trust.

The next mention of a merger came during World War II. A highly secret meeting of both school's boards took place on April 3, 1942, to discuss a temporary joining of the two schools. Combining the faculty, classes, and students onto one campus, it was claimed, could potentially save the schools 1.3 million dollars and thereby help the wartime economy. One Board member suggested that the campus of Harpeth Hall be donated to the government as a site for some wartime bureau, but the proposition met such indignation

from the older members of the Harpeth Hall Board and such ridicule that the already dubious Board members dismissed the whole idea. This meeting, however, helped to lay the foundation for more recent conferences.

The 60's were the beginnings of widespread rebellion against the traditional and the established, especially among youths. This is important because MBA students, who were once complacent about the school's policies, began to manifest evidences of rebellion against such school policies as the dress code, the accepted hair styles—and the separation of MBA and Harpeth Hall. By the 70's the rebellious feelings were at their peak. In 1973 a very small faction of very intense opposers of the schools' segregation set up a protest organization. Both schools decided to put a stop to the rebellious trend among students and suspended all of the students involved. The school's administration grew increasingly cold toward the idea of merging.

The 70's, however, was the time of the feminists. Private schools all over the nation began changing from single-sex to co-ed under the

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### Reasons For Merger

by Bill Cochran

The reasons for the history-making merger between MBA and HH are numerous and in many cases extremely complex. While shocking, one must remember that this merger is no more than just one step in a general trend that has been occurring in prep schools across the nation since the mid 70's. Baylor, which went co-ed last year, and Castle Heights, which went co-ed in the 70's, are two local manifestations of this trend.

The principal reason why the boards of the two schools decided to merge is financial. In general terms, by consolidating two schools, one is able to overcome the problem of duplication, or in other words, whereas MBA and HH both have to spend money to maintain the costs of running two schools, a combined MBA/HH would produce more students using the facilities of just one school.

In specific terms, the economic advantages are overwhelming. The profits from the sale of HH's campus to cluster home developers will be enormous and will be able to be used to help finance the construction of two new buildings, to increase the merged schools' endowment by two times, to increase the salaries of faculty members to compete with the salaries of public school teachers, and to lessen the number of tuition increases in the future as a result of the increased endowment.

An important financial ramification is that the school might have to be in operation the whole year around. When a school is not in operation for three months, it is losing money; therefore, a general trend that has been occurring in all levels of high school education is the operation of schools the whole

year around. By letting one fourth of the student body have its "summer vacation" during the first three months of the year, another fourth have its vacation during the next three months of the year and so on with the other two fourths, a school not only avoids losing money by having to shut down operations but also is able to take in more students because only three fourths of the student body will be in session at one time. The option is one that the new school is likely to take for financial reasons and for the accommodation of the increased number of students.

Another economic advantage to the merger is that there will not need to be as many faculty members or other staff members such as secretaries, janitors, etc. There will also be less administrators. In other words, there won't be as many salaries to be paid in relation to the

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### Athletic Ramifications

by Robby Bueno

A Big Red Honeybear as the school mascot? Red and green as the school colors? Co-ed bathrooms? Girl trainers for the football team? Boy trainers for the girls basketball team? Will coaches have to learn new coaching methods to deal with the emotional and physical problems of the "weaker sex"? Weights, agility, and jazzercise? Will the students from An-



Probable site for one of two new buildings

### Resulting Changes

by Patrick Bowers

The changes resulting from the MBA-Harpeth Hall merger will be enormous and will make the Hill more clearly recognized as the best preparatory academy in the South. The immediate change that the students will most easily see will be the consolidation of the two campuses. After much deliberation, the "merger committee" has devised a

three-year plan toward total integration of the two schools. The first year, 1986-1987, will consist of many co-educational classes at MBA with concentration on the lower grades. The schedules of all female students will be geared towards their spending half the day on each campus with shuttles at approximately 4th period. The alteration in administration and faculty will be minimal in the first year. Construction of two new buildings will start this summer with the tentative sites being the lower front lawn beyond the creek, and the frontlawn in front of Carter Hall, but all co-ed classes will take place in the present facilities during the first year. The following sports will be co-educational the first year as well—golf, cross country, tennis, and riflery. These sports were chosen because they will cause the least amount of change in the present MBA athletic facilities.

The second year will be a bigger step towards total merger. First of all, grades 7-9 will be completely co-educational and will primarily be placed in Massey Hall and in one of the two new buildings. Grades 10-12 will remain with those girls only taking half a day of classes at MBA. The administration will be totally integrated, with only a minimal staff at Harpeth Hall. Many teachers at HH will be teaching at MBA, and there will be some teacher dismissals on account of the merger. All sports that both sexes participate in will take place at MBA in this stage of the merger, with the additional athletic facilities for the girls having been built on the upper part of the junior parking lot.

Other female activities, such as aerobics, dance, and gymnastics, will take place at HH during the second year.

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Harpeth Hall's campus will become the site of a massive cluster home development



## FEATURES

## Resulting Changes



The second level of Patrick Wilson Library will be enclosed

## The Reasons Behind The Merge

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increased number of students. Another small but significant economic advantage is the fact that instead of needing to have two food caterers, the new school would only need one.

Apart from economic reasons, another reason concerns the improvement of the quality of campus life. MBA and HH are not merging out of necessity or only for financial reasons, but in order to capitalize on the strengths of both schools. The new school will have the best of two worlds and as a result will become one of the top three preparatory schools in the nation.

In relation to the quality of campus life, another reason for the merger is the fact that education is more than just learning what's in a book—it's learning how to live in society, and since society contains both sexes, it is not better to learn how to live with the opposite sex at an early age? On the same line, a co-educational school will also help better prepare students for college, whereas before the merger, students sometimes had trouble adjusting to the new atmosphere of a co-educational institution.

Probably the most important advantage in relation to the quality of campus life is the expansion of the curriculum as well as the expansion of extra-curricular activities. More courses with a wider selection will

be offered, and the opportunities to get involved will also be increased.

Another influential reason for the merger is the fact that the number of applications for the past three years to MBA's junior school has dropped over 25%. It is thought that the merger of the two schools will not only increase the number of junior school students two times but also stem the tide of decreasing junior school applications.

Another reason for the merger, which did not play as major a role as did the financial reasons, is parental influence. For the past fif-

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The third year will see total consolidation of MBA-HH on the MBA campus. The explanation of this plan has been general because many of the details have not been determined by the merger committee. Several specific decisions have been reached, though, and are being worked into the plan accordingly. Harpeth Hall is already in the process of making contracts with construction and real estate companies in the selling of its campus for the construction of a massive condominium and cluster-home development. The HH administration is trying to work the

teen years, there have always been a number of parents (especially those who have had children graduating from both schools) who have pressured the two administrations to consider merging as a real option.

These are just a few of the many reasons why the Boards of both schools have decided to merge. The merger is, as stated before, a history-making step not only for the two schools but also for the Nashville community, and it will have ramifications too numerous to expand upon in this one issue.

## History of Merger Talks

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intense pressure of the feminist movement; witness Castle Heights as just one of many examples. In fact, there is a remarkable quotation by Gloria Steinem concerning MBA and Harpeth Hall in a 1973 edition of *Nashville Magazine*. She was on a tour of the Southeast lobbying for the sexual desegregation of schools and was visiting Nashville at the time. She is reported as saying in one speech that "MBA and Harpeth Hall should join together or else close down."

Although the schools refused to make a definite commitment, they had another conference on May 20,

1976. Due to changing social conventions, feminist threats, and a growing attitude that MBA and Harpeth Hall could be improved by combining their efforts (see *Reasons for Merger*), a committee composed of Board members of both schools was formed to investigate ways of effectively combining the two schools. This committee was to consult architects and contractors about the facilities that would be needed. It would begin discovering what the financial need would be, and it would organize surveys of alumni, students, and parents to discuss their opinions on the matter. A survey at MBA administered to students and their parents in 1979 contained two sub-

tle questions dealing with this topic, and a survey of alumni was also taken. Harpeth Hall took similar measures. The results were positive at both schools. 81% of all students, 73% of all parents, and 60.5% of alumni at both schools were in favor of combining the two schools.

This year, the evaluation committee that visited the school determined that the atmosphere of a co-ed school would not only better prepare its students for college but also would enhance school life itself.

This brings us to the present. The night of Saturday, March 1,

rooms, and a dance studio. The present art/debate building will become a single speech facility with more modern speech practice devices and a more spacious debate facility with room for practice debates. The Isaac Ball Building will be converted into an almost solely administrative and faculty oriented facility, which will also provide offices for all faculty members. The administration consolidation is a complicated matter, but several tentative ideas have been developed. Mr. Bondurant and Mr. David Wood, headmaster at Harpeth Hall, will be co-headmasters for the first 3 years, after which time Mr. Wood will become a strong Assistant Headmaster. Mr. Drake will be the Chief Operator of the school and will have many new responsibilities as he runs the daily business of the school and students. Other offices have been created to accommodate the new demands and the need for a larger administration. Heads of departments positions are also tentative, but (never fear) Mrs. Lowry and Mrs. Hollins will remain as Heads of English and Languages, respectively. The expansion of the campus is pending but the Board of Trust is already dealing with the inhabitants on Wilton Ave. for the purchase of their homes in order to provide land for additional athletic facilities.

another inter-school conference was called. The committee presented the Boards of both schools their findings and a plan by which the schools could be gradually combined over three years. The plan was approved by a 4/5 vote of the two Boards, and the momentous decision was made.

As of next year, MBA and Harpeth Hall will no longer exist as separate schools. What has been considered ridiculously impossible will happen. MBA and Harpeth Hall will become one.

A special meeting of the Boards of both schools will be held on the night of April 1 to finalize this historic decision.

## Mr. Womack Expresses Thoughts On Life On "The Hill"



Mr. Womack observes the artwork of one of his students

by Bill Cochran  
Mr. Womack was born in Stanton, Virginia but, because his father was a preacher, he lived throughout the Southeast as a child. He attended Georgia Tech his senior year in high school after which time he went to Davidson College from 1971-74. After graduating from Davidson, Mr. Womack spent a year in Union Seminary and then proceeded to earn a Master's degree in Art History at Virginia Commonwealth University. After teaching at a private school in North Carolina for a year, Mr. Womack came to MBA in 1979. He is only the second art teacher MBA

has ever had. In a recent interview with *The Bell Ringer*, Mr. Womack expressed some of his thoughts on life at MBA.

Q: Do you think MBA has a responsibility to make its students gentlemen, scholars, and athletes, and, if so, do you think MBA does a good job in doing that?

A: I would say that it is really easy to respond to the academic and athletic. Those are two measurable things. Judging by how well students can make the college of their choice, judging by performance on a national level whether SATs or AP, I think that speaks for

itself. Also athletics do. For a school of our size to be able to compete in the way we do says a lot. In terms of a gentleman, there's always a question of what that connotes. Are we talking about young men with good manners or what? I guess one of the things that I try to do in talking about challenging students to come to grips with this aspect is that an education should ask hard questions. It should force one to think, not only in the classroom, but also about one's role in the world, one's role in relationship to others. It's easy to be friends with someone like you, but the harder questions deal with those who are different from you. To me, the term gentleman has a real quality to it that goes beyond the 19th century polished gentleman with good manners and so forth, but really connotes a responsible citizen, and I think the real question is fostering that responsible citizenship. I think, to tell you the truth, that some of the recent activities, particularly the soup kitchen and even the response that I've had to the prison art show, have really opened my eyes to a willingness on the part of the students to try to deal with things that they aren't familiar with. Also, with the Honor Council and just the setup, the structures at MBA, there is a very limited amount of leeway. I guess you could say that one's actions can go, and I think that helps foster some of the discipline.

Q: What is the role and the importance of the art program at MBA?

A: When I came here seven years ago, there was a good program to build on. There was an art history program already in place and a studio program that was really not well defined in terms of the regular curriculum, but it was in place. I think that's important. My earliest years here I looked upon the art program as being a complement to what was going on in the rest of MBA. In other words, I'm not trying to create the dichotomy that creativity lies only in this building and noncreativity lies outside of it. That's not the case, but it offers an opportunity for the students to engage in work that is significantly different than what he does the majority of the day in classrooms. Also, art, in my estimation, has always addressed itself to the need of the individual student. It doesn't force one to rise to one level of ex-

pectation or one standard that is expected, but it pushes each student to a level or a standard which they are capable of achieving. I think that is a real compliment to the program. In past years, however, I really feel like its importance has grown, because what I have found is that at this school there are students with a tremendous ability to engage in the arts. There's no question that there is talent here. I think it is seen on the part of the administration, the faculty in general and, I think to some degree, the student body that art needs to be more than just an extracurricular role, that it has a role to function within the general curriculum.

Q: Do you think there needs to be more students participating in this program?

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## THE BELL RINGER

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## FEATURES

## Mr. Womack Expresses Thoughts On Life On "The Hill"

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A: What I would like to see would be a student who could become involved in the artistic process in whatever way he felt best; I'd like to be able to offer avenues, whether it be in music or in drama or in the visual arts or even through exhibitions here, even if their level of involvement is through being able to simply gaze at the work. I think there's a level at which all can get involved.

Q: Do you think creativity is dead on the hill as always is an issue? It seems every year people criticize MBA for not allowing for the creativity that is at other schools.

A: First of all, creativity to me is also not a term that can just be categorized over a broad spectrum, and it's not something that can be stereotyped. To me, creativity deals primarily with an individual's ability to respond to any given situation in a unique and different way. It may involve being in a language class or a literature class and being able to make a connection between two thoughts that maybe had not been made before or in an English class, even on a theme, being able to underscore certain points from a different angle. You know, it's really surprising because in teaching the history of art, it is amazing to me in a way, to see that creativity is really fostered by boundaries and limits, and certainly MBA has its boundaries and limits in terms of its structure and its discipline.

Q: How is that?

A: Well, in a way what creativity does it to provide a guide for students to push against those limits, to find out what one can do, and not necessarily what one can do but how one can work within that framework. The limits that are set become not just confining limits, but defining limits. In other words, it's helpful to be able to have that kind of background. Just to give you an example of art during the 19th century, we moved through the realist and impressionist and the post-impressionist period. You're talking about an art that was set up in opposition to academic art, to classical art. So you find that slowly, but surely, as painters began to investigate how to put color on a canvas or how to look at a subject in not just one structured way, that there were reactions against those limits. Now once the institution was gone, once the Academy vanished, how do you define art now? In other words, there are no limits in which art can react to and, I think to some degree, it's the worst for it. Also let me just say one last thing. It is also interesting to me that of two students who, in seven years have

gone to art school, their ability to work within the system has actually been enhanced by being at MBA, simply by the fact that talent and creativity is as much of a discipline as anything, and what you find at MBA is that there is a tremendous amount of attention paid to meeting deadlines and to being able to work within fairly structured environments. That's what you have to do.

Q: I don't know if you can make this comparison or not, but do you think MBA's art program is comparable or better than the art program at any other school around the city?

A: I've seen what goes on around town, but again I think you're talking about apples and oranges. For one thing, at MBA art has traditionally had an extracurricular role; art has never been organized into classes. I mean, it is on the 7th and 8th grade level, but still there is a minimum amount of participation required. All of the art that is done at MBA right now on the high school level is done on an independent study basis. So really the majority of the emphasis of it is placed on the student, both in terms of motivation, in terms of ideas, and of perseverance. That's not to say that my role is not there, but I think that's primarily where the focus lies. But in terms of "teaching" in an organized or structured fashion, you know it's not there. Also, you don't have the same incentives you don't get credit for it, and you don't get graded for it. In light of having to do themes and having to do term papers and having to take tests and make up tests and so forth, it's very difficult. So those who finally spend an inordinate amount of time in the program do so, to some extent, on their own, at their own risk, shall I say. But, at the same time, we have an art history program here that has 29 students in it at the moment, which is more than any other school in the state. Last year, out of 47 students who took the advanced placement in art history, we had 18 of those. So I mean you're talking about the nature of a program that has a lot of room to grow, and I think that's the exciting part of it to me. When you stop and look at MBAs curriculum, or you stop and look and see what we're doing, certainly there is an area that one can really get involved in that is already in place, because as I said before, talent is here, and I don't think it's to any lesser degree than when I got here seven years ago. I don't think simply by stereotyping one school as the center of the arts in Nashville that you can discount what goes on anywhere else.

Q: Do you see MBA students doing that?

A: Well, I think there's a danger in doing that. I'm not saying that they do do that, but I think there is a danger in doing that. We all live in a world that is uniquely our own, created by our own circumstance, whatever it may be. And the tendency is to scoot right through without becoming involved in things on a much broader level, and I think one of the things that art has always done for me is that it has encouraged me to open myself to a much larger, much broader experience than simply the one that I find myself in right now. I think by doing that, you learn a lot about yourself simply by not concentrating on yourself. It means a lot to be involved with others, to be involved in something that is considered worthwhile, helpful, and I think everyone should seek their own level of participation in that.

Q: Changing subjects, what constructive remarks might you have for the MBA student of today?

A: I'm sure that all who read this will chuckle because I'm probably easier to stereotype than many other teachers here, but I think one real caution that I would have would be of going through life and going through an education with blinders on. In other words, not wanting to take a look at the general spectrum of the society around us.

Q: Do you have any specific criticisms in relation to the students?

A: It's not really so much of a criticism. I think one of the things that I think needs continually to be emphasized is that we're all in this together. Education is a cooperative effort, not just in the classroom but on an athletic field, hiking in the woods, or just simply out of the classroom. There is a need to realize that it is a shared partnership and that the one goal with which we are all really striving for is, in a very real sense, learning about ourselves, also learning about what we are studying within this environment. I think that requires a maximum amount of effort on everyone's part.

Q: Do you have any specific praises for the students of MBA?

A: Well I am constantly amazed at just the amount that is expected. I really am. I often times wonder, from my own background, how I would feel at your point right now, having written your last theme, having been here six years. You know, I don't think I'd be sitting here talking to an art teacher. I mean, but there's a lot that is to be said for that, and I think that speaks well of one's ability to stick to it and is to be commended.

Q: As far as the Outing Club is concerned, what do you see is the purpose of the Outing Club? Is it just to enjoy going on some trips or is there some purpose that you would like each member to get out of going into nature and going and hiking?

A: I would say that it is totally selfish because it is what I enjoy doing. I had been involved in camping all throughout college. I was an assistant director at several camps in Georgia and Virginia and have

found that a lot of amazing things happen in small groups. If I had the time, what I would love to see would be to find the Outing Club expanded to a full-time position where you could actually go through things like first aid courses, CPR courses, and go through camping and repelling instruction and white water and spend weekends being involved in the woods. I think there is so much to be gained, not just from the incidentals or learning about nature or learning about camping or learning about white water or the skills that are involved, but just like art, there is so much opportunity there to learn about yourself, and you learn about yourself in relationship to how you work with others. I think that is extremely important because you can't lose sight of that kind of goal.

Q: Do you feel like the faculty and the administration have a good relationship?

A: Again, going back to the previous concern about students, I think you must realize that the faculty and the administration are, again, in the same boat; that with a really strong faculty, you need a really strong administration. I have certainly found, in terms of being able to propose new programs with the 7th and 8th grade, that there has been a receptive ear, that certainly in terms of many of the things that I have wanted to do here from taking trips to instituting new processes, if you will, has met with a very positive response, but I think that being down in this little building makes it difficult to see the world beyond this building.

Q: Faculty and students?

A: With as much as is going on, there is always a tremendous amount of contact. One of my pet peeves is the advisor/advisee system. For instance, someone like me who doesn't float around the campus, would like to be dealing with art students. In terms of just casual contact, in terms of willingness to go even on Outing Club trips, particularly when we make trips like the one to New York last year or the one to Chicago this year, you can always count on MBA students to come through. That really has been a very big plus with this school.

Q: How do you explain the popularity of the art history program this year? Why have there been so many participants in this course this year?

A: I would like to think that much of it is due to the fact that people who have had it have been able to go out and do a better job of advertising it than I do. I mean, after all, they sit in the classroom a whole year and listen to what I have to say, so they are much better at judging what it has to offer. Previously, I think largely it is the amount of knowledge about the course. What are your concepts of art history? Or what do you know about art history? I think it has always been new. The interesting thing about the course is that when the class starts, everybody is at ground zero. Everybody starts out from almost the same point. In that like learning a new language, it is a matter of getting used to the vocabulary. There

are two things I think are really important with it. Number one, it helps you learn how to see. You know, we're awfully good at teaching how to write and teaching how to speak, but our society, as a whole, does a tremendously poor job of teaching people how to look and how to look with a seriousness, with the same kind of seriousness with which we learn to speak and write. It helps the individuals develop a sense of seeing. Second of all, I think there's just a real excitement about being involved in a whole area of study that one previously knew nothing about. When in this course, students develop their own sense of the history of art. Obviously, it's tainted with the bias of Jim Womack, but nevertheless, that is what is encouraged so that you begin to manipulate, you begin to work with the material so that by the end of the class when we get to the modern period, there is hopefully some sort of a handle with which the student can function well. And I think, in general, they've done real well. So I think that it has a lot of things to offer, but I think you have to take a risk with it because most people don't know what goes on.

Q: Do you see new art/drama building being built at MBA?

A: I think when you talk about building there is a commitment: a commitment on the part of the administration, faculty, and the students towards increasing the role of art at MBA. You have to make that kind of commitment. You don't just build a building in order to put a program in it. Hopefully, what we are working on is having a program that will be able to walk into a building like that. In terms of the increased expansion, I think the sky is the limit in terms of talking about participation with drama, with which there has always been a very strong interest at this school; in terms of music, which I think is probably one of the most glaring omissions whether it be instruction or whether it be appreciation of what it may be. In terms of the music curriculum there needs to be a commitment towards that. In terms of the visual arts, what I hope to foresee one day is being able to organize senior school classes into classes so that painting as a discipline or printmaking or even drawing as a discipline can be taught. Because I think, again, it's not a question of talent, but it's a question of commitment and it's a question of providing the opportunity for a student to reach into the areas of the arts in the way that most clearly fits his needs, whether it be a stagehand for a production crew or whether it be a drawing class on a high school level. What I have found is that by the time students come here in the 7th grade, many of them have already made up their minds, for one reason or another, whether they really want to continue art actively. Now art in that sense, usually means visual arts, studio arts, and they've never had much of an exposure to drama or to music. So, as part of a total education, you're dealing with an area that has a lot of room and a lot of implications for its students.

Q: If you had one piece of advice for an incoming 7th grader concerning his education at MBA, what would that be?

A: Do it with a sense of humor.



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## The Fantasticks

by Don Fish

Despite a deluge of snow, flu, and nervous-nausea, the MBA players successfully wowed audiences in *The Fantasticks* over Valentine weekend. This most recent performance marked the third time MBA has done this particular show in 10 years, and Mr. Drake declared it "... hands down, the best of the three!" Historically speaking, *The Fantasticks* is the longest-running professional show in America, period. It opened in 1960 at the Sullivan Street Theater in New York City and is still running today. Its simplicity of set and audience-intimacy make it perfect off-broadway material as well as suitable for the less-than-accommodating Wallace Hall stage.

The story is basically a parable about love, narrated by a swash-buckling bandit named El Gallo (Don Fish). As an assistant to El Gallo, the mute (Rob Stack) delivers no line during the show, but magically creates props and provides comic relief in no-so-common moments. Matt (Michael Star) and Luisa (Jennifer Debs of Overton) are the vehicles for the story kept separate by their fathers (Merritt Sehl and Christopher Pomey) until the time for their marriage is ripe. To provide a perfect situation for the marriage, a mock rape is staged in which a washed-up actor (Jeff Frace) and his bumbling assistant (Jimbo Hunt) attempt to kidnap Luisa until Matt finds them off with a meter stick. This is basically the content of the first act, leaving audiences confused and anxious during intermission.

The second act opens with a fight between the two families which persuades Matt to leave his town and search for excitement in the open world. Meanwhile, Luisa has an affair with El Gallo until he dumps her to teach her a lesson while Matt is persecuted abroad with fire, sticks, and a bed of nails. When Matt returns home to a jilted Luisa, they laugh at each other's mistakes

and vow to stick together.

To the uneducated reader, the plot may seem silly and meaningless, but those who saw the show will argue otherwise. Woven into the show are several familiar songs, accompanied by pianist Marian Ross, drummer David Wood, and bass player Thayer Smith. Lighting was done by John Rawlings. A special thanks to Mrs. Debs who was invaluable as costume mistress. The entire production would not have been the great success it was had it not been for the hard work of director Mr. Poston. In addition to actual directing, Mr. Poston designed the set, created the special lighting effects, rented costumes, and put up with the general gripes of the cast.

In another few years, future MBA players will no doubt be performing *The Fantasticks* again, but they will find it difficult to surpass the level of talent and energy shown by the *Fantasticks* of '86.

## The Laurels Of Success

by Scott Bennett

During the early part of the year, the MBA forensics team was quite busy hauling home well-earned laurels of success. From January 31 to February 2, MBA competed at the Barkley Forum held at Emory University in Atlanta, known nationally for its intense debate competition and its unparalleled individual events. Both debate teams cleared into out rounds. Madison Laird and Warren Sprouse dropped in Octofinals to Detroit Catholic Central. Nevertheless, Madison was named top speaker in a field of some of the country's finest debaters. Chris Pomey and T.A. McKinney dropped to Westminster of Atlanta in Quarterfinals. In individual events, Scott Bennett cleared in extemporaneous speaking before dropping in the semi-final round. During the same weekend in Nashville, Burt Fulmer and Jay Kahlon won the novice division of the Goodpasture Invitational Tour-



February 14-15, several MBA policy and Lincoln-Douglas debaters competed in the Tennessee District Debate and L-D Tournament, the winners of which qualify for the National Forensic League Tournament in Tulsa, Oklahoma this June. In debate T.A. and Warren finished second to a team from Hillsboro, and they qualified for Nationals. In L-D, Travis Jackson, competing for his first tournament, dropped in the quarterfinal round in a split decision to the tournament's eventual winner. In addition, several other L-Ders showed tremendous promise in the absence of any veteran coaches. As of now, MBA leads the Sweepstakes point totals by eight points. If MBA is to retain its two year sweep of the Sweepstakes trophy, the team must do well at the I.E. district Tournament in March.

February 21-22, five MBA team members travelled to Vestavia Hills

presidents entered, they were given a standing ovation and immediately took the seats in front of the oversized American flag similar to *Patton* fans.

Each of the presidents was introduced separately and given a few minutes to present his case concerning Soviet-U.S. relations. President Gerald Ford began the session, stressing the importance of nuclear reduction in both the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Ford declared that U.S. military superiority is gone, and we must be able to achieve equivalence with Russia. In addition to outlining certain military systems of both countries, Ford warned of the dangers of Soviet global expansion to such countries as Afghanistan in their efforts to control the Middle East. Ford also denounced the Geneva summit, calling a two-day meeting incapable of solving any problem. Ford predicts the next U.S./Soviet meeting will occur here in America sometime this year with the aid of an optimistic Gorbachev who claims he is seeking a nuclear weapon-free world by the year 2000. Ford, however, openly wonders if Gorbachev's goals are constructive or merely a ploy.

Ford disagrees with Reagan's plan for a totally defensive program, stressing that a strong offense is crucial to a powerful nation. Also, Ford sees the possibility for a nuclear compromise on the basis of two facts. First, the Soviets need a reduction in arms cost because their economy is non-competitive in the Western world. Second, most Americans favor a reduction of nuclear weapons on both sides of the globe.

In conclusion, Ford said he is looking for such reduction to take place in 1986 or 1987. Then he sat down.

Carter was next, loosening the crowd up with his witty opening remarks in contrast to Ford's matter-of-fact presentation. Carter's views can be summed up in his self-declared thesis for the forum: cooperate when possible; compete when necessary. He assured the audience that the U.S. is still the strongest country in the world militarily, economically, politically, and usually morally. While the Soviets are basically atheistic, America is a religious nation, like the countries in the Middle East. Also, the U.S. has the respect of national independence and our alliances are strong while the Soviet's are "shaky."

Next, Carter made comments about Gorbachev as a young, rigorous, dynamic, and independent leader whose views on arms control are internationally popular. Then Carter attacked Reagan's Star Wars plan (this attack was met with widespread applause) as a costly and ineffective burden. Carter agrees with Gorbachev in that space should not be used for destructive weaponry.

Last, Carter said that the recent

(continued on page 5)

## Attitude

by Bill Penuel

At the risk of this article sounding like an advertisement, I would very much like to praise the effectiveness of Don Meyer and Bison Basketball Camps. I do not necessarily praise getting up every morning for a week in the summer at a quarter of six, but rather I praise the content of Meyer's clinics. The clinics have an obvious center in motivation, the key to the Bison's winning ways. There is not a write-up of a Bison game in which a player does not quote his mentor, Meyer. What is the secret of his success? Attitude.

If you have ever been to one of his camps, perhaps you will recall his statement: "It is not what you achieve, it's what you become." That is a comfort to know as the infinite number of deadlines for school go on and pressures increase for academic achievement. What you become is dependent upon attitude, Meyer stresses. He calls for a constant attitude of "I'm ready to play basketball and play hard." Indeed everyone feels tired after a week of camp with Meyer, but it sure feels good being in shape and having a better attitude.

One of the most rewarding feelings that comes as a result of camp is a better attitude. I always feel refreshed after a week of camp and wonder how I survived the end of the school year with such a bad attitude. Unfortunately, that feeling wears off around Christmas time, when exams and Science Fair are fast approaching and all-nights with the Late Night Crew are not uncommon.

It is this time of year in which it is necessary to recall some of the lessons and notes from last year's camp. One of the best ways I have found is to read the newspaper clippings from Bison games, which are full of Meyer sayings. Another way is to coalesce any notes taken at last year's camp. Some of the key points include:

- 1) Set goals. Make categories of goals for athletics, social life, academics, and motivation. The goals seem to make all nights easier to bear since there is a reason for the apparent busy work.
- 2) Make new habits. One thing Meyer said concerning habits is that it takes 21 days to form a new one. By concentrating on keying a habit for 21 days, the task of forming one seems easier.
- 3) Do it now. One piece of literature handed out at the camps is a story entitled "Say It Now!" This story emphasizes the importance of overcoming procrastination. Certainly one way to overcome it is to be doing something productive every waking hour of the day as it seems campers do at Meyer's camp, but through effective management of time, one can get everything done that must be done and have time for much-needed relaxation.
- 4) "Humans are at best when serving others," Don Meyer says. One of the best ways to help others is by setting an example. Remember the saying in the locker room: "Attitudes are contagious. Is yours worth catching?"

Usually these brief but profound examples of Don Meyer's motivational techniques are enough to make it through another day and even have a good day. Try his system, and change for the better is inevitable.

## Impact — The Carter-Ford Debate

by Don Fish

Vanderbilt University has had great success in attracting famous speakers to its campus (recently Robert Penn Warren and Dr. Ruth Westheimer), but the weekend of Feb. 21-22 saw two of America's most influential men speak to a sold-out audience in the Memorial Gymnasium. The guests were Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter, 38th and 39th presidents, respectively, and the topic of debate was compromise in East/West relations.

The Impact organization of Vanderbilt deserves credit for its acquisition of these leaders. Impact, run entirely by VU students, began

22 years ago as a vehicle for the debate of timely issues, and past guests have included George Wallace and Robert Kennedy. Never before, however, have their annual forums drawn as much publicity and support as did this one.

When I arrived at the gymnasium, I discovered that all tickets were sold, and I had to find another way to get in. After somewhat deceptively acquiring a press pass, I was ushered to the VIP press section at the front of the auditorium where I rubbed elbows with such journalistic legends as Jill McSweeney and others. When the



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# FEATURES

Fifth of a Series on Alumni Insights

## Alumni Insights — The 1970s



Damon Regen

by Bill Cochran

Mr. Regen was born in Nashville on March 31, 1954. He attended from 1968-1972 and attended Vanderbilt University from 1972 to 1976, where he played football. After graduating from Vanderbilt, Mr. Regen taught at Franklin Road Academy for five years at the end of which time he returned to his alma mater MBA to teach mathematics. He also serves as the assistant coach to the varsity football team as well as the supervisor for the weights and athletics program at MBA. He is also a member of Totomoi.

by Damon Regen  
Class of '72

I have been impressed with the articles submitted by previous MBA alumni for the "Alumni Insights" column of the *Bell Ringer*. Their insights into their experiences at MBA and of the world in general are quite outstanding. To be frank, I do not plan to be as thorough; however, I do feel like I could offer some feeling for the history of the school.

by Barney Lams

The debate over gun control has been raging ever since regulations were first introduced in the 1968 Gun Control Act. The election of 1988 could have a great effect on the controversy since many U.S. Supreme Court justices are getting very old and the next president will probably appoint up to 5 new justices. Many of the older justices, five in their late seventies, are moderate and will not rule definitively on the Second Amendment, the Right to Keep and Bear Arms. They did not rule for example on the controversial *Morton Grove* case. In the small town of Morton Grove, in 1982, handguns were banned and even keeping them in your home was declared illegal.

There were almost 22,000 murders in the U.S. in 1980 and 62% of those were done with guns, and in 80% of these cases handguns were used. These statistics are not difficult to imagine since handguns are so small and concealable. The gun-control effort has been primarily targeted at banning or controlling handguns. The major gun control lobby is the National Coalition to Ban Handguns. They also have a new problem; semi-automatic guns which are sold with very few restrictions but which can be easily transformed into fully automatic weapons. An example of this is the MAC-10 which was sold from 1979 to 1985 with an estimated 35,000 in circulation. By placing a small piece of plastic behind the trigger mechanism, the MAC-10 could be converted to an illegal

After all, during my freshman through senior years here, MBA was my world.

I am reminded of the adage "the more things change, the more they stay the same," when I look at the Hill today. In fact, it is often humorous to drive to school as a teacher and hear the same music blasting from the cars of students in 1972: The Doors ("Light My Fire"), Hendrix ("Purple Haze"), Led Zeppelin ("Stairway to Heaven"), Steppenwolf ("Magic Carpet Ride"), and the like.

The music of my day helped to inspire for the upcoming day of scholastic endeavor (yuk! yuk!). Seriously though, the academic atmosphere at MBA was just as intense as I see it today. The intensity sure helps when one enters his freshman year in college. Still, I felt as a student that the teachers were fair in their conduct of the class and in their grading system. Today, in working with some of the same people, I have the same opinions of their fairness. I was also impressed with our headmaster Francis E. Carter, who had the same mystique about him as my other role model, Coach Owen. Ah... football. I think the only reason I was able to play football on the college level was due to my exposure to Coach Owen's great system. His combination of thoroughness and discipline is unsurpassed. In fact, my father sent me to MBA to be coached by him. It was just fortunate that a great education came with the great coaching. Likewise, the exposure I received in baseball from Coach Bennett and Coach Tillman was fantastic. We were fortunate enough to win the State Baseball Championship my senior year.

## What Should Be Done With Handguns?

automatic many murders result from domestic quarrels, not from invading criminals. A gun is an easy way of settling an argument. I once heard of a case in which a man shot his brother in an argument over a car battery. Psychologists as well as statisticians are called in to the gun debate. Some say that it is not the gun but the people who fire the gun that are dangerous and some say that it is the trigger that pulls the finger and not the finger that pulls the trigger. This last view is one expounded by psychologist Leonard Berkowitz in his article "How Guns Control Us." Berkowitz conducted experiments that showed that the

great many murders result from domestic quarrels, not from invading criminals. A gun is an easy way of settling an argument. I once heard of a case in which a man shot his brother in an argument over a car battery. Psychologists as well as statisticians are called in to the gun debate. Some say that it is not the gun but the people who fire the gun that are dangerous and some say that it is the trigger that pulls the finger and not the finger that pulls the trigger. This last view is one expounded by psychologist Leonard Berkowitz in his article "How Guns Control Us." Berkowitz conducted experiments that showed that the

The pro-gun control faction can however point to the increasing proliferation of handguns and guns in general and the corresponding rise in the number of murders and robberies. In 1960 there were 2 million guns produced or imported in the U.S. and by 1980 there were almost 6½ million. During that time the annual homicide rate went from 9,000 to 22,000. The handgun, they point out, is used more for criminal purposes than in self-defense. Said the San Francisco City supervisor said that in San Francisco handguns were used in self-defense only four times in 1981 while handguns accounted for more than half of the city's 126 homicides. Furthermore a

Lest I ramble, let me push on. Scholastically and athletically I felt right at home at MBA, but when it came to contact with the honey bees, I was a bit out of my league. In other words, I was somewhat of a social enigma. The influence of an all-boy atmosphere Monday through Friday had an impact on the Saturday night forays. Double and triple dating was not my idea of the ideal social outing, but out of necessity it was tolerated. The fact that I have always been big did leave itself open for comment on said triple dates when the couples

(continued from page 4)

summit meetings are constructive for the bitter vituperation of the past five years, but the follow-up meetings, he believes, will not come this year.

This ended the first part of what seemed like a passive debate. When intermission was over, Britt Hume, ABC World News Report weekend anchorman and Washington correspondent, took the role as mediator posing questions to the former presidents and briefly commenting on their responses. The following is a list of Mr. Hume's questions with a summary of Ford's and Carter's responses.

**Hume:** Should Reagan's Strategic Defense Investigation (SDI) be stopped now?

**Carter:** There has always been such an investigation, but Reagan's new plan was made without consulting. It [Star Wars] is a very misleading

crammed into the car. Needless to say, my size was not an asset until Friday night at 7:30 during the fall season.

But I survived. In fact, I married a Harpeth Hall alumna, who was one of my good friends in high school. Not bad, huh?

Now for the four-part alumni poll  
Class of 1972

1. Favorite teacher — absent
2. Favorite class — lunch
3. Favorite pastime — dodging 8th period study hall (sound familiar?)

## Carter-Ford Debate

and expensive plan, and scientifically cannot be realized. In short, SDI should be stopped as soon as possible.

**Ford:** SDI should under no circumstances be stopped now (applause). Star Wars is a faulty plan, but research is necessary to increase defense; it is not a destructive investigation, and to abandon such research would be premature.

**Hume:** Why do the Soviets fear SDI?

**Carter:** Soviets fear SDI because (1) U.S. has a technological advantage; (2) "very costly for both sides"; and (3) Soviets will match us, no matter what, but they want to avoid cost.

**Ford:** Soviets want SDI stopped because they have their own version of Star Wars. If we cut back, and they go on, then they will have the advantage, and the U.S. should fear a surprise breakthrough of the Soviets.

very presence of a firearm induces aggression.

How guns will be actually controlled if the gun control people persuade Congress or if a new Supreme Court does somehow nullify the Second Amendment is, as mentioned previously, a big problem on which everyone has his own ideas. My personal opinion is that handguns should be banned and such a punishment should be administered to criminals caught using handguns that they would be deterred from having them again. Public flogging may be a sufficiently garish punishment as to alert or alarm the criminal mind.

4. Favorite staff member — Boom-boom (see number 2)

In conclusion, I feel that the Lord has blessed me with the privilege of educating young men at the same institution that influenced me for four years. I think the students at MBA should feel some degree of gratitude for the privilege of attending this school. The one thing I would tell the young men at MBA is to use the talents the Lord has given them and never forget to thank Him on occasion. Too sappy? Too bad! I believe in what I say.

**Hume:** What would you do about Middle East crises?

**Carter:** Elevate peace in Middle East to a major position.

**Ford:** It should be a matter of high priority.

**Hume:** What must come out of the next summit meeting for it to be a success?

**Ford:** It must be more than a "get acquainted" session. There should be more progress in human rights. There should be a definite move to move us one way or the other involving weapons.

**Carter:** There should be an enhanced cultural exchange involving tourism, sports, and scholars. The problem with the recent summit meeting was lack of agenda on negotiating, and the agreements had too many gaps.

**Hume:** One last question from the audience. President Ford, how's your golf game?

**Ford:** It's better. I'm hitting fewer spectators.

With this last question, the presidents stepped down, ending the debate that was "stricken with agreement." The topics of debate were certainly interesting, but I found the responses to be rather obvious and uninteresting. The audience seemed to enjoy Carter more because he kept them laughing while Ford presented the facts with as little brouhaha as possible. Despite the lack of conflict, the forum was a success, not so much for its enlightenment, but rather for its leading men.

## Another Science Fair

by Jianbin Shiao

This year's science fair turned out to be a continuation of last year's innovative fair. Last year, Tom Rogers sent MBA into a mildly chaotic frenzy with his delectable carrying of mice gonads. This year, MBA, hardened by Rogers' anatomical venture, reacted only slightly to Dave Frederikson's sending mice to a "gas chamber" before almost turning them inside out for observation and photography. Yes, MBA has entered a trend of picturing gross diseased anatomical photos. On the undissected front, Brian Stephenson observed the effect of cocaine (?) on rat behavior. In total, it can be said that MBA is becoming less and less conservative if the science fair can be used as a scale. Titles, such as "Where the Birds Are," and backboards showing "Surf This!" and Dr. Ruth were MBA firsts. Even Niemeyer's long known theme "Reason over Passion" found its way into the science fair on Clark Geddie's backboard.

On a more serious note, some questioning of the status of the science fair was raised. The majority of the MBA student body is in

opposition to the fair's present status. Advocates are very rare. Many want the fair to be an optional event. Some moderates believe in the science fair's importance but believe the project should count less. Extremists want the

science fair destroyed completely. John Joe best expresses the extremist ideas: "Science fair is bunk." Nevertheless, this year's science fair was a successful event despite much misgiving by the student body.



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## ENTERTAINMENT

## The 1986 Grammy Awards

by Jay Knowles

For a performer, a grammy award is much more than recognition by his peers for a job well done. A grammy can also mean big bucks in record, concert, ticket, and merchandising sales. That's why almost everybody who is anybody in the music business turned out in their sharpest tuxedos and most revealing dresses for the 28th annual Grammy Awards on February 25 in Los Angeles.

The nominating began in December when the members of NARAS (National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences) chose 5 nominees in each category out of all eligible recordings. Then in January, all of the members voted again for one of the five nominees. Then the votes were tabulated and remained secret until the moment the envelopes were opened.

The show opened with Sting performing his latest song "Russians." It was a good rendition of the song, but it started the show with a melancholy feeling. Kenny Rogers did a good job of singing the show despite his seeming inability to read cue cards; also, the introduc-

tions written for presenters were occasionally a little too long and drawn out. Most of the presenters did a fine job. Two of the best were Billy Crystal and Whoopi Goldberg doing their impressions of each other. Nick Rhodes of Duran Duran best out his co-presenter Sheena Easton for most make-up. Lani Hall (who?) won best Latin pop performance, and before she left the stage she had thanked the entire continent of South America. The highlight of the entire night must have been the Pepsi commercials. Nothing could be cooler than Don Johnson and Glen Fry crusing in a Ferrari drinking Pepsi.

The people of "We Are the World" walked away with the most awards. They received four grammys in all, including best record and best song, plus a special grammy was given to everyone involved with the recording from the music industry. "We Are the World" was a great idea for a great cause, but it wasn't that great of a song. The academy also ignored the sense of humor best cut, "Mahvelous" Billy Crystal and "Weird Al" Yankovic for best

musical merit. "We Are the World" did not deserve an award. For grammatical accuracy, it was terrible. The purpose was sincere.

Phil Collins also had a big night. He won best producer, best male vocalist, and "No Jacket Required" won best album. Phil is definitely the best at what he does which is to make tight, stylish, hip, top 40's tunes. But is he really the best overall?

Dire Straits and Mark Knopfler, the biggest nomination getter, had what might be called a disappointing evening. This was mostly due to the fact that "We Are the World" took the awards away from many of the more deserving vote getters. They did, however, get awards for best rock group and best engineered album. Knopfler also got best country instrumental for a duet he did with Chet Atkins. Sade won best new artist, although A-ha or Julian Lennon would have been equally deserving for their top forty teenage music. Whoopi Goldberg with her ironic sense of humor best cut, "Mahvelous" Billy Crystal and "Weird Al" Yankovic for best

comedy album. Wynton Marsalis' "Black Cooler" from the Underground received two grammys in the Jazz categories and David Sandborn got one. Robert Shaw and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra won four grammys for their rendition of Berlioz's Requiem. Andrew Lloyd Webber won best new classical composition for his Requiem. The biggest award of the night, best pop recording, went to the King of Pop, Frank Zappa, for his smash album 70 Years of Hits. Awards for lifetime achievement went to the Rolling Stones, Benny Goodman, George and Ira Gershwin, and Andres

Segovia. Carl Perkins' recording of "Blue Suede Shoes" was among the records inducted into the Hall of Fame.

Overall, the awards went well. To space out the boring reception speeches there were many interesting of not excellent performances. Some of the best were by Carl Perkins, Huey Lewis, Whitney Houston, Stevie Wonder, and a jam session with greats like B.B. King, Dizzy Gillespie, Sarah Vaughn and Joe Williams, and youngsters like Herbie Hancock and Stanley Jordan. The end of the show was about as exciting as this article.

## Local Update

by Rob Baker

The Nashville Entertainment Association's (formerly NMA) music showcase at Rooster's and the Cannery was a great success. The showcase featured the White Animals, Raging Fire, the Movement, Will Rambeau, Rococo, and many other local bands. The NEA's purpose in bringing these local bands together was to provide a look at Nashville's top acts for music executives from Los Angeles, New York, and other major centers of the music industry. Hopefully, this showcase will provide exposure for many of Nashville's fine, unsigned bands.

Nashville will be the sight of yet another one of those benefit concerts, a national Anti-Apartheid Concert. Nashville based SAFE (South African Freedom Education), led by Ashish Simmons of Afrikan Dreamland, is setting up the concert. Few acts have been announced, but local acts Dreamland, the White Animals, Autumn, and national musicians like Stevie Wonder, Pete Segar, and Gil Scott Heron have promised to help. The concert will be at the Municipal Auditorium.

The 91 ROCK benefit album *A City Without A Subway* is due for release in March. It features some for Nashville's top local talent. All proceeds from the album will go to fund the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital. A concert featuring the acts on the album will take place April 4. Tickets are \$10.

Rococo has released their first recording *Photograph My Dream* with a single of the same name. The single is reportedly getting good airplay on WKDF. Freedom of Expression has gotten national distribution on their fine EP. Shadow 15 has a new four-song EP called *Far Away*. Three of the songs are simply re-mixes of songs from their now-unavailable cassette release. Look for new music from Raging Fire. Ex-Enemy bassist Lee A. Carr has replaced Les Shields on Bass. The enemy has broken up, but several ex-members should be forming a new band soon. On April 13, the day after the Anti-Apartheid festival, there will be a reggae festival on the lawn of Vanderbilt University.

## Things to See, Hear, and Do

by Travis Jackson

TV  
Great Performances — The best in drama, music, and dance. Sundays, 9:30 p.m., channel 8.

The Young Ones — "Subtle" British comedy at its "best" — Sundays, 10:30 p.m. MTV

Barney Miller — Relevant, funny, and entertaining. Thought-provoking, too. Monday-Thursday, 11:00 p.m. channel 4.

Late Night With David Letterman — Obnoxious, insulting, and ridiculously funny for die-hard fans. Intensely boring if you've never watched it. Live band! Monday-Thursday, 11:30 p.m., channel 4.

Moonlighting — Romantic comedy; timing is excellent! Witty, charming, and sassy. Tuesday, 8 p.m., channel 2.

The Cosby Show — No explanation necessary. Thursday, 7 p.m., channel 4.

nel 4.

The Twilight Zone — (Friday, 7 p.m., channel 5) Stretch the limits of your imagination. Also Amazing Stories (Sunday, 7 p.m., channel 4)

Radio

The Import Revue — The latest imported records are played for you. This show is interesting if nothing else. Wednesday, 10 p.m., 91 Rock.

Wax Museum — The best in late '60s and early '70s rock music. Sunday, 8 a.m., 103 KDF.

Rock Over London — The latest in British Music, both mainstream and new music with interviews. Sunday, 11 p.m., Rock Hits 104.

The Blues Show — All you aspiring musicians take notes from the Blues masters! Listen to this show. Sunday, 6 p.m., 91 Rock.

91 Local and Notes from the Underground — The music from Nashville's up and coming bands and established bands is played during the local show. The same is done on a nationwide basis on Notes from the Underground which opens with a Tom Waits song. Friday, 6 and 9 p.m.

Publications

Spin Magazine (\$2 monthly) — If you don't like Rolling Stone, you'll love this magazine. Published by Bob Guccione, Jr. Some of the best music reviews going. Definitely on top of everything. Available everywhere.

New Musical Express (\$2 weekly) — The best music and film reporting anywhere. These critics actually know what they're talking about. Tons of info. Available at Cat's West End.

The Metro (Free) — Local updates plus record and concert reviews.

## THE MUSIC SCENE

by Jonathan Cole and  
Stephen McConnell

Looking for a good mix of different musical styles? Try B.A.D.'s (Big Audio Dynamite) blend of white reggae, funk, and rock. The Clash refugee Mick Jones has continued his music success. After being kicked out of the Clash in 1983, Jones immediately formed a band with four other artists: the show Leo Williams to play the tunes that Joe Strummer and the Clash refused to record. The debut LP "This Is Big Audio Dynamite" opens with "The Medicine Show" which features solid guitar chords, radio clippings, and Jones' quirky voice. Country-western made funk is the cut "Stone Thames," and Jones' funk to white reggae leanings are shown in "Sudden Impact." A heavy drum beat and a clanging guitar make the only released single so far the "Bottom Line" one of the most moving songs on the album. Definitely worth mentioning is the cut "E-M-C-I." The prevailing overall theme of the album appears to be BAD's apocalyptic warnings for the younger generation. After the Jonesless Clash's new dismal LP release, it appears as though Mick Jones has had the last laugh. Support good music — buy this album.

by Tom Humphreys

In lieu of reviewing a new record, I thought it might be nice to educate everybody about an old record that can be found in the discount rack at any record store. The album is "Live at Fillmore East" by the Allman Brothers Band, released in 1971 by ATCO records. It is the last album released before the tragic death of one of the world's greatest guitarists, Duane Allman. On October 29, 1971, shortly after the release of the album, Duane died in a tragic motorcycle accident. He was already considered to be one of the best slide players around and one of the best blues guitar players. He had worked with such artists as Percy Sledge, Aretha Franklin, Boz Scaggs, Wilson Pickett, Otis Rush, and King Curtis. Perhaps his most acclaimed effort was his lead guitar work with Eric Clapton on the "Loyola" album. And all of this before his death at age 21.

Let's put the needle on side 1. It's

a little scratchy, but that's because the record is old. Whoa! Duane's slide burns as does the rest of the band. That slide solo is nearly melting the solo. Now Dicky Betts' playing will turn the room into a deep freeze as his precise technique and fluid style give him the reputation as one of rock's finest guitarists. It's an old tune entitled "Statesboro Blues." Now the band jumps into the Elmore Jones song "Done Somebody Wrong." Again, Duane's slide leads the way as the band lays down a tight rhythm. Next the band eases into T-Bone Walker's blues standard "Stormy Monday." The band has never sounded so well together. In the lead break, Duane makes his old, battered Les Paul cry as he literally makes his guitar express emotion. The pace quickens as Greg Allman takes over on keyboard and slows down again as Betts takes over. The band plays extremely tight on this song, and Greg Allman's soulful singing steals the show.

Let's try side 2. The song is an extended version of "You Don't Love Me." Duane starts out by playing a rhythm so funky it would make Bo Diddley blush. Betts soon kicks in, followed by Greg and the rest of the band. The fast paced song is complemented by the harmonica played by Thom Doucette. The last fifteen minutes of the song are filled with Duane's and Dickey's guitar solos, as they show their virtuosity in their respective styles.

Flipping over to side 3, we hear "Hot 'Lonia" as everybody in the band shows their chops in this five minute jam. Next is Betts' "In Memory of Elizabeth Reed," a moderately slow, melodic, instrumental ballad.

When we put on side 4, we hear the first burning strains of "Whipping Post." Berry Oakley's bass starts the band off on a twenty-two minute excursion into some of the tightest and hottest playing displayed by the band. Duane picks his way around the blues scale and then begins to wander in and out of the Dorian Mode, showing the superb musicianship and vast musical knowledge that made him famous.

\*\*\*\*\*

If this journey through the double album has not impressed you enough to buy the record, listen to a friend's or relative's copy. One listen and you will be hooked on this blues rock and roll style that has made the Allman Brothers Band famous.

## Who Said?

by the editors of  
the Bell Ringer

Sometimes you can think of people as bards, you know, those poet guys, the ones who have a bunch of stock phrases that they use when reciting poetry. Well, as much as some of them might hate to admit, certain people have certain stock phrases that recur almost with the regularity of night after day in their speech. As far as the rest of us are concerned, these stock phrases often identify these certain people. So, with no help or hints, try to guess who said:

- 1) "I think it's time that you boys sit down."
- 2) "Okay, folks."
- 3) "Only through the proper balance between reason and passion can order and true fulfillment exist."
- 4) "O.K. I'm ready to go. Let's go ten yards."
- 5) "In my extensive research on the subject . . ."
- 6) "This is my mean look . . . shut up."

## Van Riper Art Show

by Jody Davis

From late January to mid February, MBA sponsored an art show featuring the work of Susan Van Riper. Mrs. Van Riper's work included various collages and oil paintings ranging from portraits to profound representations of feelings. The works not only exhibited an obvious talent but also a tremendous creativity in expressing her feelings with a unique imagery on canvas.

Mrs. Van Riper's work, unappealing to some students, received much criticism of a less constructive

nature, the likes of which are unfit to be exposed in a high school newspaper. Mrs. Van Riper, on the other hand, found such criticism screwed in an eight-letter word next to her name on her advertising card. Mrs. Van Riper later said to Mr. Womack, "Guess they did not enjoy the art show."

Of course, not all the reactions to the art show were as negative. One student of unquestioned sincerity, me, felt that the art show "stimulated my imagination and creativity in understanding the paintings." Overall, this was a very controversial art show.



## SPORTS

## Hardball Squad Is Optimistic

by John Griffith

The outlook for the '86 edition of the hardball squad on the Hill is very good, if not exceptional. Led by returning seniors Chip Fridrich, Dave Malone, Robbie McNair, and Talbot Masten, the team hopes to improve on a disappointing 4th place finish in the district last year.

The team's defense is led by sure-gloved and open-minded third baseman Robbie McNair and dependable shortstop Dave Malone. Sophomore Brad Reese roams the territory at second and Masten covers first. Mark Smith has catching duties and Fridrich,

who is being wooed by the Commodores, Tarheels, and Brahman Bulls, heads the pitching staff. The outfield consists of strong-armed Jay Stroman in left, Mike Morrissey in center, and Bobby Whitson in right.

The offense, which is capable of destroying any pitching staff they face this season, is headed by the home-run-hitting bat of Talbot "Hub-Hub" Masten and switch-hitting Robbie McNair. The seniors lead the offense, but this team has strong sticks from the top to the bottom of the lineup.

New additions to the team this

year are senior John Griffith, junior Skip Burke, and sophomores Jim Harwell and Jeff Owen. These four hope to provide strong back-up for this year's powerful squad.

During spring break the team travelled to Clearwater, Florida for a week of fun, sun, and practice. After a hard rain on Saturday, the team hit the beach on Sunday and got extremely sunburned. Although the team was sore throughout the week, it still had four solid practices during the week and is definitely ready to face its tough schedule that includes district powers Antioch and Overton.

"This year's team could be the best I've seen in my twenty-three years at Montgomery Bell Academy," said Coach John Bennett. With the added coaching ability of Hank Hopping, a standout at Sewanee, the team appears ready to continue the strong tradition of baseball at MBA.

## JV Soccer

by Charlie Hailey and Robb Ludwick

The 1986 JV Soccer team is looking forward to a promising season this year under the instruction of Coach Leach. The hopeful coach sums up his aspirations for this JV season with one word—"improvement." He expects to see an improvement in playing both as individuals and as a team, giving everyone a chance to play. The team's main goal is not winning but improving skills in preparation for varsity soccer. The season's schedule has not been set yet, but it will include between 8 and 10 games. Some promising players include sophomores Paul Moffat and Leonard Warren, and freshmen Jamie Cheek and Greg Stein. With these goals in mind, the JV will attack the spring season.

by Vivek Sahota

The 1985-86 tennis team is looking forward to a promising season with a possible state championship which has always been just out of its grasp. The team has lost the services of '85 graduates Hunt Warner (#1) and Mike Wood (#5), but the emergence of freshman Bill Cherry (#1) and junior transfer Fleming With (#2) will hopefully compensate for the loss. The returning members of the team include seniors Vivek Sahota (#4), Beau Wilson (#5), and

## Varsity Track



Todd Cassidy blows opponents away

by Bobby Crants

MBA tracksters are busy preparing for the 1986 spring track season. After a strong season last year, MBA enters the season with hopes for the district title. The sprint events will be led by senior Gavin Moon and junior Brennan Martin. Harvard Reynolds should have a strong year at the middle distances, and Pat Bowers is expected to lead

the long-distance running events. MBA's field team is strong this year with Johnny Thompson in the hurdles, John Jenkins in discus, Robert Reed in shot put, Gavin Moon in the long jumps, and Paul Soper in the pole vault. With these capable individuals and the guidance of Coach Owen and Coach Pruitt, MBA should have a successful year.

## 1986 Track Schedule

Date	Opponent	Location
3-12	Hillwood, Franklin	MBA
3-27	Dickson County	MBA
4-4	Overton	MBA
4-10	Hillsboro	MBA
4-12	Clarksville Rotary Relays	Austin Peay
4-16	McCallie, Glenciff, Brentwood	MBA
4-19	Mid-South Classic	McCallie
4-26	Optimist Track Meet	Overton
5-2	Banner Relays	McGavock
5-10	Regional Championship	McGavock
5-17	State Championship	MBA
5-21 & 22	State Decathlon	MBA

## A Promising Season

Steven Mason (#7); juniors Chip Blaufuss (#8) and Tommy Frist (#3); sophomores Sterling Price (#10) and Arthur Henderson (#6); and freshman Frank Drowota (#9).

Among the non-district matches awaiting the team are clashes with Dickson County, Cookeville (2), Hume-Fogg, and Beech High. The team also has trips scheduled to Chattanooga (to play McCallie and the Rotary tournament), Memphis (Germaniown and MUS [defending State Champions]), and Paducah,

Ky. (Lone Oak High and Tilghman High). The team will then complete the regular season with the Carter Tournament held at MBA.

Post-season play will begin with the District Tournament (April 21 - May 1) at MBA and the Region Tournament the following week (May 7-10), also at MBA. MBA has dominated these tournaments, thus its major objective is for all the singles and doubles qualifiers for the State Tournament to be from MBA.

The State Tournament will be held at Centennial Tennis Center here in Nashville, the week of May 12-16.

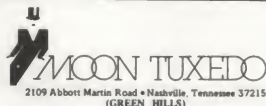
## Answers to "Who Said"

- 6) Mrs. Hollins
- 5) Mr. Mark Elliot
- 4) Mr. Lowry
- 3) Dr. Niemeyer
- 2) Dr. Ward
- 1) Mrs. Miller

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## SPORTS

## Soccer Team — Might for Right

by Daniel Swartz

Now that spring has finally reached "the Hill," students' minds tend to wander away from their studies and center on one singular event. One might ask, "What is this event? Is it spring break, or graduation, or summer vacation?" I think not. This event makes these just mentioned seem less meaningful than a rerun of "The Dukes of Hazard." The event about which I am writing is, of course, the varsity soccer season.

The members of the 1986 varsity soccer team have been on a "night journey" upon which through self-recognition they learned their purpose in the world of soccer. These enlightened men begin the 1986 season with one goal, a quest, if you will, to make it to the state tournament and then pursue the state of Tennessee of all the evil teams in the league, just as Hamlet purged the Machievian Court of all its evil. They plan to reduce all opposition into weak shells of human beings barely resembling any type of life form with their superior skills, intelligence, teamwork, brute force, and over-all good looks. They will then capture the state tournament trophy for a record fourth time, and bring it back to MBA where it darn well belongs.

The purple fiends down on Elliston Place and the Communist sympathizing Commandos from everyone's favorite city of Hendersonville should be the biggest obstacles in the path of the gallant defenders of all that is right in the world of soccer.

The team's offense, which will be delivering the killing blows to the evil opposition, is headed by senior Rob Elliott, junior Scott Sprague, sophomore Ryan Kurtz, and freshman Chris Hall. This arsenal has totally committed themselves to following the Gatsbian dream of self-perfection. In their first two games of the season, they have netted almost one-half the number of goals scored by last year's squad.

The midfield, whose job is to aid both the offense and the defense in their fight against evil, is led by senior Willie Linn, juniors Scott Boone, Ted Rice, Tim Wallace, Barry Lancaster, and sophomores David Fletcher and Stephen Zibas. The midfield practices Emerson's Transcendental Idealism, drawing their strength from the power of the "Oversoul."

The defense, whose main function is to repel the invading evil forces, is anchored by seniors Daniel Swartz, Kenny Russell, Scott Pearson, Bill Cochran, and Nick Anton; juniors Jimmy Zibas, Robert Willingham, and Paul Lentz; sophomores Storm Summer, and Tim Gutow; and freshman Willy Johnson. These brave defenders of good perform with such grace under pressure as to put to shame even the most heroic Hemingway character. Unfortunately, at times

they "get off the boat" and begin to take on the same characteristics as something "straight from the Congo."

The MBA Crusaders began their quest for a state tournament birth on Feb. 24 when they faced the Overton Bobcats, vandals of the football picture and an all-around threat to the American way of life. After a scoreless first half, the Big Red conquerors of evil built up a three goal lead with two goals from Scott Sprague and one from Ryan Kurtz. Unfortunately, atavism soon swept through the Big Red defense, thus making the *Lord of the Flies* look like a Utopia. Overton pulled to within one goal before the Crusaders reunited and held on to its one goal lead to earn their first victory of the 1986 season.

On March 4, the Crusaders then traveled to Murfreesboro to conquer the quasi-Americanized Riverdale team. These defenders of righteousness overcame a pre-game blizzard, a lopsided field, a mongoloid foreigner with a fetish for car horns, and a two-to-one deficit to triumph in their struggle against evil 3 to 2. Scott Sprague netted two goals and Rob Elliott added another to pace the Big Red Crusaders to victory. The varsity soccer team had won their first two matches, and all was right with the world.

The next battle for these brave champions of good came on March 7. The Crusaders journeyed out into the middle of nowhere in below-freezing temperature without the talents of leading scorer Scott Sprague who was sidelined with an injury, to wage war on the evil Page empire. During the pregame warm-up, Page's quasi-bearded goalkeeper, sporting a fluorescent green uniform, brought out his ghetto blaster and treated the Big Red to a Rock Hits 104 serenade of "Rock Me Amadeus" and Sly Fox's "Let's Go All the Way." The defenders of righteousness then saw the affectionate scene of Page's all American Randy "Stud" Evans, hugging his girlfriend while at the captain's coin toss.

After the festivities, play got underway. The Crusaders took an early lead when Barry Lancaster hit a brilliant center to Tim Wallace who buried the "egg" into the back of the net. Unfortunately, before the first half ended, Page retaliated and was able to knot the score at one all, mainly because the Big Red's defense was making tackles which were weaker than the Page fan's brain trust.

The battle continued throughout the second half. Finally with just a few minutes remaining Scott Boone broke free from the Page defense only to be hauled down in the penalty box by one of the Page "egg" past the cromagnon Page goalkeeper on a direct free kick to give the Crusaders a 2 to 1

lead. However, with just seconds remaining a Page offender broke through the Big Red's defense only to have his shot smothered by newly acquired keeper Paul Lentz. Evil was once again conquered.

The Crusaders opened the home season on March 11 before an immense gathering of rowdy MBA students. The fighters for truth and justice were to take on possibly their greatest challenge yet by playing Brentwood High with its long-haired center forward and its keeper who looked like a fat Bozo the Clown. The defenders of good took a one to nil lead when Scott Boone centered to David Fletcher who in turn blasted the ball past Bozo. The Crusaders defense tightened and they were able to hold onto the one to nil lead despite Brentwood's throwing sand in Ryan Kurtz's face, pile driving Nick Anton and throwing constant tantrums whenever things did not go their way.

The Crusaders, now 4 and 0, decided to venture down to Florida for their spring break in hopes of getting a tan and playing a few friendly games (not necessarily in that order, coach). The trip down was highlighted by Ted Rice's throwing foreign substances at Nick Anton's car, a bathroom at a gas station which contained various contraceptive devices and sexual diagrams and sleep.

It rained throughout the first day of the Big Red's stay in Florida (foreshadowing their future perhaps). Due to the deluge caused by the rain, the first game was canceled. The second day the Crusaders were treated to an early morning soccer clinic given by some English mad man named Steve. A few hours after the vigorous clinic the defenders of all that is good in the universe faced their first opponents. The gods realizing that the mighty Big Red might be getting a little too confident decided to have them punished thus eliminating any chance of hubris for them. Although they fought bravely, the Big Red was downed three to nil. A few hours later, the defenders of righteousness had to take the field again. Weary from the clinic and the first game and still being punished by the gods were defeated 8 to nil by a quicker highly skilled Florida team.

On their third day, the Big Red went to another of mad man Steve's early morning clinics and then spent the afternoon on the beaches. That night, the Crusaders played their third and final game against the under 19 Clearwater Chargers, the team that beat last year's squad 11-0. The game was highlighted by Scott Sprague's brilliant goal and a couple of soccer horror stories which were told by another mad man named Skipper while one of the Clearwater players was being attended to by the trainers. The Big Red was defeated 5-1 and all hubris was destroyed.

Although the team suffered some big losses, they did show a number of well-executed plays and runs against the superior Florida teams. They should continue their winning warp against their evil Tennessee teams.



Mr. Leech and the unorthodox Lanier watch MBA win its fourth straight victory

## Swimming

by Jonathon Cole

This past winter, twenty-one members of the student body joined together to bring back swimming to the MBA winter athletic agenda.

The brave souls who dared to go underwater while the MBA Aquatic Club every Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday. MBA and the St. Cecilia girls joined to form a complete team under the guidance of the all-knowing coach Ann Marie Walker from the Saint across Harding Road. Our faithful swimmers swim every practice in awe of the legend of Tracy Caulkins as her presence was felt throughout the wall of NAC.

After a long series of self-devastating practices, the team decided to test their newly acquired aquatic skills on the evil empire from Elliston Place and the people from the other Saint: Saint Bernard. The Big Red watched as the dreams of a perfect season floated down the lanes of the pool. Bright spots for MBA were Jon Huddleston's third in the 200 free, Tommy Hayes' third in the 50 free, Pieter Foster's second in the 100 back and third in the 100 breast, Andy Crowe's fourth in the 100 breast, and Eric Sundell's first in the 100 fly and 500 free. The Big Red then realized that the whole season they would be facing year-long swimmers from over schools. MBA was the only true high school team in the conference because all (except Sundell) of its swimmers were not yet year round swimmers. Because conference domination was unrealistic, the swimmers decided to concentrate on personal improvement. MBA/St. Cecilia also competed in a dual meet season with Brentwood High School and Murfreesboro-Oakland.

Finally, as the season began to draw to an end, the team competed in the Mid-State conference meet. MBA was able to distinguish itself by having nine members qualify for the state meet in Nashville. Representing the Big Red were Jon Huddleston, Tommy Hayes, Rob Ludwick, John Rawlings, Chuck Resha, Pieter Foster, Eric Sundell, Todd Cassetty, and Jonathon Cole.

After abandoning the protective environment of the Hill, the swim team enjoyed a leisurely Friday evening on UT's famous "strip." The swimmers witnessed the ability of some of Knoxville's finest citizens to drive their cars up and down the road up to five times while yelling suggestive remarks. That Friday night as the basketball team waged war against some bobcats, the team rested up to meet the fastest swimmers from across the state in UT Natatorium. Early in the next morning as the sun rose above the Appalachian mountains, MBA/St. Cecilia swimmers found themselves warming for the day's competition. Our faithful heroes swam their hardest only to be eliminated before the finals. One lone swimmer, Eric Sundell, persevered to make it to the finals in both of his events. Sundell scored the Big Red's only points of the meet by placing fourth in both the 200 intermediate and 100 butterfly.

Reflecting on the completed season, Coach Ann Marie Walker said that "... our record may not be that great, but accomplishment can be seen in individual times." Because of the dedication of a group of athletes from the Hill, the foundation has been laid for a successful Big Red swimming program. Thanks for all of the support, and the team is grateful to Ann Marie for her supreme effort throughout the season.

## Jr-Sr B-Ball Game

(continued from page 7)

six men on the court plan many times, it resulted in five penalties and technical fouls for the juniors. The referees told the juniors that they could not do this plan anymore because of some obscure and unheard of rule called "too many men on the court," or something like that.

Out of loyalty to his coach and self-determination, junior Brennon Fitzpatrick was seen running on and off the court in the closing minutes of the game. When Brennon was asked after the game what he was doing, he replied that he was a firm believer in the sixth man on the

court theory. After a courageous attempt to even up the score during the second half, the juniors came empty. Although they held seniors to only four points in the second half, it was not enough. The seniors defeated the juniors 62-49. Morgan Wills, Beau Wilson, and Chip Fridrich tossed in many points for the seniors. Bob "Manute" Pate scored a lot of points for the junior team. Junior Chris Burch, who played for about eight minutes, somehow managed to foul out of the game! Burch was the only player from both squads to foul out. The game was enjoyed by all who participated, and hopefully can be played for years to come.

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